

If the FCC is willing to stand idly by while Sinclair Broadcasting attacks our democracy right under their noses it will be a sad day in America. Chairman Powell's attempt to hide his inaction behind the veil of the first amendment is transparently shameful. This former employee of Dick Cheney saying that the FCC isn't in the business of blocking a program before it runs is similar to a police officer saying his job is to investigate crimes not prevent them from happening, even if he knows exactly where and when they will occur.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air a slanderous and distortion filled anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.